

AUTOMATIC VEHICLE THEFT PROTECTION SYSTEM

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An automatic vehicle theft prevention system (52)
5 selectively enables an ignition system (22) of a vehicle (20).
The system (52) includes an interrogator circuit (54) that
generates and radiates an excitation signal (68). A
transponder circuit (56) in close proximity to the interrogator
circuit (54), and separate from an ignition key (48) of the
10 ignition system (22), detects the excitation signal (68) and
modulates the excitation signal (68) to produce the return
signal (74) containing an identification code (76) for the
transponder circuit (56). The return signal (74) is radiated
from the transponder circuit (56) and received at the
15 interrogator circuit (54). When a controller (58), in
communication with the interrogator (54), detects the
identification code (76) in the return signal (74), the
controller (58) actuates a relay (60) to an enable mode to
enable the ignition system (22).